(b) The main reasons for shortfall ol hydro share are emphasis on Thermal/ Gas based projects due to longer gestation of hydro projects, problems due to large scale resettlement and rehabilitation of people, geological and hydrological risks associated with the construction of hydcl projects, problems involving evacuation of bulk power supply since these are located in the remote areas, dearth of good contractors, Inter-State issues affecting some hydcl projects and lack of adequate financial resources to implement projects.

(c) Government has taken several measures for accelerating the growth of hydro power development. These include higher budgetary support to Central Public Sector Undertakings like National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd. (NHPC), North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) and Tchri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC), advance action for new hydel projects, liberalised policy to attract private sector participation and action plan for hydro power development in North Eastern Region.

Government of India has announced a Policy on Hydro Power Development in August 1998 in order to accelerate the pace of hydro power development. The policy envisages the following measures for this purpose:—

(i) Providing adequate funds in the Centraltate Government budget and organising supplementary funding through Power Finance Corporation.

(ii) entrusting basin wise development to Central Hydel Public Sector Corporations.

(iii) Funding support for Survey and Investigations.

(iv) Eastablishing of Power Development Fund.

(v) Providing a differential pricing for peaking power to facilitate greater investment in hydel projects which have the capability to supply peaking power in a cost effective manner.

(vi) Providing an institutional mechanism for dealing with geological risks.

(vii) Utilising the joint venture frame work for promoting hydel projects.

(viii) Simplification of procedures relating to transfer of clearances from State Government to Central Public Sector Undertakings and State Government to private sector.

(ix) Enhancing the ceiling limits for techno-cconomic clearance by CEA in respect of projects promoted on the MOU route.

(x) Transfer of work relating to the development of small hydel projects upto 25 MW capacity from Ministry of Power to Ministry of Non-conventional energy Sources and providing a suitable incentive package.

Setting up of Power Projects during 9th Five Year Plan

273. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major, medium and minor power projects proposed to be set up in the country during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the break-up thereof, state-wise and capacity thereof; and

(c) the location thereof and the steps taken in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (c) State-wise and project wise details of the power projects, along with their capacity, proposed to be set up during the Ninth Five Year Plan are Annexed. *[See* Appendix 185, Annexure No. 8]

Private participation in Power Sector

274. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOY AL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state: